

EXPANDING VISIONS

Lyme Art Association Juried Exhibition in the Cole and Goodman Galleries

HUDSON VALLEY ART ASSOCIATION

91st Annual National Juried Exhibition in the Cooper Ferry and Caddell Galleries

On View thru July 18, 2024

HOPE IS A THING WITH FEATHERS

Young Artists Exhibition in the Mile Brook Gallery



Partner Wall Program: Raising Awareness & Amplifying Audiences Through Art

We count ourselves lucky to be part of a strong community of local not-for-profit organizations in Southeastern Connecticut. As a 501(c)(3), our mission is specifically driven by the arts and history: we are here to cultivate an appreciation for fine representational art through exhibitions and education, and to maintain and preserve our historic 1921 building, a gallery built for the artists of the Lyme Art Colony that carries their heritage forward today.

As Executive Director, I find myself in conversation time and again with other worthy organizations whose work enriches all our lives. Sometimes we find ourselves competing for donors and grants, but many more times we find ourselves working in partnership to make our corner of the world a better place. We do our very best work when we find ways to partner that are mutually beneficial, expanding our reach in the process and developing new audiences for our exhibitions and art programming.

With that in mind, we have started a program at LAA called the Partnership Wall. For each show, we partner with a fellow non-profit whose mission is complementary to the show or timely in some other fashion. We display a poster about that organization explaining their mission, along with a piece or two chosen from our Elected Artist Small Works gallery. If those pieces sell during the show, we donate LAA's commission from the sale to that organization. They encourage their supporters to learn more and visit LAA, and we encourage our visitors to learn more about them: a win-win situation.

During Ship to Shore we featured Save the Sound and during Expanding Visions (during which our young artists' show is also on display) we are featuring the Miracle League of Southeastern Connecticut. If you would like an organization whose cause is important to you featured in the future, please contact me at elsbeth@lymeartassociation.org. *We can't wait to see where this program takes us!*

– Elsbeth Dowd, Executive Director

Upcoming Exhibitions & Events

Family Day

Saturday, July 13 from 10 am – 1 pm

Midsummer Festival

Saturday, July 27

Elected Artist Applications

Paperwork due August 11

Portfolio drop-offs due August 21–24

103rd Elected Artist Exhibition

July 26 – September 5

Opening Reception: Fri., August 2, 5 – 7 pm

Taking Flight

July 26 – September 5

Opening Reception: Fri., August 2, 5 – 7 pm

New Haven Paint & Clay Club

Select Members Exhibition

July 26 – September 5

Opening Reception: Fri., August 2, 5 – 7 pm

New England Landscape

September 13 – October 24

Opening Reception: Fri., Sept. 20, 5 – 7 pm

Connecticut Pastel Society - Renaissance in Pastel

September 13 – October 24

Opening Reception: Fri., Sept. 20, 5 – 7 pm

Plein Aire Group Show

October 16– 28.

Lyme Art Association Annual Membership Meeting, Wed., October 11, 2023, 5:30 pm

Palate to Palette, a delicious and art-filled fundraiser and party

Thursday, October 19, 2023, 6 – 9 pm

Deck the Walls

November 1 – December 29, 2024

Opening Reception: Sun., Nov. 10, 2 – 4 pm

Bon Appetit

November 1 – December 29, 2024

Opening Reception: Sun., Nov. 10, 2 – 4 pm

LAA Instructor Exhibition

November 1 – December 31, 2024

Opening Reception: Sun., Nov. 10, 2 – 4 pm

Visit www.LymeArtAssociation.org
for details on exhibitions and events.

From the Board President

Sending out a big "Thank You" to all of our volunteers. In order to carry out our ambitious calendar of events, we are in a constant need of assistance to help our dedicated staff. Earlier this year, I put out a call for volunteers. We greatly appreciate our members that came forward to help LAA achieve our goals.

Whether you are interested in landscaping, serving beverages or bringing food for our receptions, demonstrating or becoming an active member on our many committees, you can contact our Executive Director, Elsbeth Dowd. We could not achieve the success that we have accomplished without your help.

I am looking forward to our planned events, lectures, educational courses and workshops, and art shows. Each year, our artists create stunning paintings that are auctioned off at our annual Palate to Palette fundraiser.

This year, Palate to Palette will be held on Thursday, October 17. I cannot wait to see the paintings that are submitted. I hope to see you soon at one of our wonderful events that we have planned.

Beverly Schirmeier, Board President



Board of Directors

Beverly Schirmeier, President
Michael Centrella, Vice President
Paul Sellier, Treasurer
Katherine Simmons, Secretary
John Beatty, Audit Committee
Del-Bourre Bach, APEC
Maura Cochran, Strategic Planning
Margaret Jane DeRisio, Development
Debbie Goodman, Palate to Palette
Randie Kahrl, Education & Activities
Lois Lawrence, Governance, Palate to Palette
Paul Loescher, Capital Projects
Jeanne O'Brien, Development
Erin Schaaf, Palate to Palette
Lorraine Yurkewicz, Education & Activities and
Assistant Secretary
David Zuckerbraun, Development

Staff

Elsbeth Dowd, Executive Director
Paul Michael, Gallery Manager
Jolie Collins, Communications Manager
Ann Chan, Business Manager
Sara Drought Nebel, Gallery Associate
Sarah Kentoffio, Gallery Assistant
Franceska Nebel, Development Assistant

The background of the poster is a large painting of a harbor scene with several boats, including a prominent red and green boat in the foreground. To the right, there is a vertical strip featuring a painting of a white bird in flight and a portrait of a woman in a blue jacket and yellow top.

103rd Elected Artists Show
New Haven Paint & Clay Club Select Members Exhibition
Taking Flight

Concurrent Exhibitions: July 26 - September 5, 2024
Opening Reception: Friday, August 2, 5-7 pm

Chelsea Groton
SUPPORTING SPONSOR

LYME ART
ASSOCIATION

Save the Date!

PALATE TO PALETTE

Thursday, October 17, 2024, 6 to 9 p.m.

A delicious and art-filled fundraiser featuring sumptuous fine food from top regional restaurants and caterers, live music, a silent auction of new artwork specially created by our member artists, and a live auction of works by some of our most recognized artists.

At Lyme Art Association, 90 Lyme Street, Old Lyme CT 06371

Art: Blanche Serban, Wildflowers, oil.

Palate to Palette is a wonderful way to support the Lyme Art Association's special role as a home for artists at every stage of their journey. All proceeds support a strong and sustainable future for our historic gallery, where groundbreaking American Impressionist artists showcased their work more than 100 years ago. LAA provides year-round exhibitions and a wide array of educational programs, a special place where artists and art lovers alike gather to celebrate our remarkable artistic heritage.

We invite you to step up as a sponsor for this delicious and art-filled fundraiser. As a sponsor, you receive complimentary tickets, recognition leading up to and at the event, reserved parking spaces for the highest level donors. This is also an opportunity to secure tickets early!

Pledge your support for Palate to Palette today. When you are ready, contributions can be made by check made out to Lyme Art Association or online at lymeartassociation.org/p2p-sponsorship

Elsbeth Dowd
Executive Director

Debbie Goodman & Kim Sapia
Palate to Palette Co-Chairs



Thank you to our special partners for their support of Palate to Palette in 2023!



SAYBROOK
POINT
RESORT & MARINA

The Curry Queen
33 Elm Street, Old Saybrook, CT

bacari social
Waterfront Bar & Restaurant



PAULANER
USA

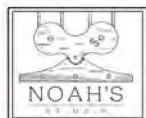
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FOOD AND BEVERAGE CO.



Gourmet Gallery
CATERING
CELEBRATING OVER 10 YEARS

Fromage
FINE FOODS
& COFFEES

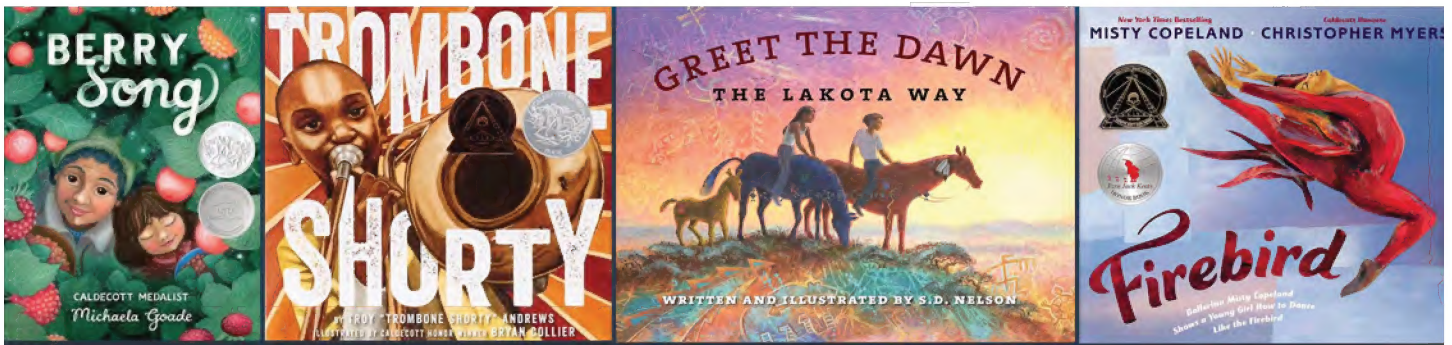
OLD LYME
INN
thesidedoor



GreySail
SAILING & YACHTING



Fox Hopyard
EAST HADDAM, CT



REPRESENT! A New Family Program at Lyme Art Association

At LAA, we are all about representational art – but what exactly is representational art? Although the artists of LAA know what this means, the term deserves a deeper dive. What does it mean to represent something or someone artistically? And whose stories and experiences are being represented?

This spring, we launched a family program called Represent! This was a fun-filled exploration of four fabulous artists whose diverse backgrounds and artistic styles bring stories to life. The program, aimed toward elementary-aged children, ran on Saturday mornings for the month of March. Each week we featured a different artist and a picture book they have illustrated, read the story, and discussed the artist, their background, and their style. Then we got creative and made fun art projects inspired by the book, learning about artistic techniques along the way.

We chose books and artists whose work has been recognized with a [Caldecott Medal Of Honor](#). The Caldecott Medal was named in honor of nineteenth-century English illustrator Randolph Caldecott. It is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service



to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children. The books chosen for this program included: ***Berry Song***, Michaela Goade (Author and Illustrator); ***Trombone Shorty: A Picture Book Biography***, Troy Andrews (Author), Bryan Collier (Illustrator); ***Greet the Dawn: The Lakota Way***, S. D. Nelson (Author and Illustrator); and ***Firebird***, Misty Copeland (Author), Christopher Myers (Illustrator)

For Week One, we had 11 children from ages 3 to 9. We read *Berry Song*, discussed Michaela Goade's background as a member of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, and found her hometown of Sitka on a map. Then we talked about her watercolor illustrations. We looked at photographs of berries, discussing shape, color, and light. The children then started their own art projects, painting pictures of berries from life in watercolor. We finished up with a printing project, using cardboard to make botanical designs. Subsequent weeks followed a similar pattern of learning and artistic exploration - all inspired by these wonderful books.

Thanks to a generous grant from PARJE, Public Art for Racial Justice Education, we plan to continue this program in collaboration with libraries in New London County.

Families, keep an eye out for announcements of the Fall program!

Who are the artists of these wonderful books for children?

Michaela Goade, the author and illustrator of *Berry Song* is the *New York Times* Bestselling illustrator of *We Are Water Protectors* and a 2020 Kirkus Prize Finalist.

Bryan Collier is a beloved illustrator known for his unique style combining watercolor and detailed collage. He is a four-time Caldecott Honor recipient for *Trombone Shorty*, *Dave the Potter*, *Martin's Big Words*, and *Rosa*.

S.D. Nelson is descended from Norse and American Indian heritage. His many children's books are inspired by this heritage and offer unique interpretations of Indigenous stories, themes, and imagery that reveal the richness and depth of Lakota life.

Christopher Myers is an artist and writer whose work across disciplines is rooted in storytelling. His diverse practice spans textiles, performance, film, and sculptural objects, often created in collaboration with artisans from around the globe.



Michaela Goade, *Ripe Berry Moon*, Watercolor.



Bryan Collier, *You're My Angel*, WC/Collage



S. D. Nelson, *We Ride At Dawn*, Acrylic.



Christopher Myers, *Sarah Forbes Bonetta as Omobo Aina as Persephone*, Applique Textile



PLEIN AIR PAINTING GROUPS – Maura Cochran, Associate Artist

Steve Plaziak, *Duck River Painters*, Watercolor

Lyme Art Association artists have a long tradition of plein air painting! There are many wonderful locations featuring landscapes, farms, town views, and marine and seascape locations in and around Old Lyme. This year LAA is presenting Plein Air sessions from May through October in three ways, to better serve our diverse membership.

Open Sessions run on Saturdays, once a month, at public parks and locations. These sessions are in response to requests from our members who work Monday through Friday. There is no pre-registration or fee. The locations are posted on the LAA website.

Pop-Ups are opportunistic and do not involve pre-registration or a fee. Locations, dates and times are sent out to those on the Plein Air Master List 3 to 4 days before the session. So far, we have gone to Harkness State Park, Old Lyme Inn, and the Foot of Main in Essex. If the weather is warm, we may have a few Pop-Ups in November. Stay tuned!

Subscription Series Paintouts are limited to 25 artists at a location, on a first come/first served basis. The fee for the September 9 through October 28 paintout series is \$60. Locations will be announced. We maintain a waiting list if we are over-subscribed.

Please be aware that some of these subscription series locations are on private property. We have been granted permission from the property owners to paint on their properties within announced hours, often 9:00 am until 12:00 pm/noon. It is imperative that subscribed painters not arrive at these locations before the published start time and leave promptly at closing time. Members may not return to the property at another time or in any other way take advantage of LAA's relationship with the property owner. This is the only way we can build trust and maintain access to these wonderful locations.

END OF THE SEASON WRAPUP: Artists who have participated in LAA plein air sessions will be invited to hang their artwork in a show in the Mile Brook Gallery, October 16- 28. Drop off for up to 2 paintings is Sunday, October 13. This show is not juried and there is no admission fee. All sales from the show will be handled by Lyme Art Association with the usual 35% commission.

Plein air artists who have participated in our 2024 plein air sessions are invited to meet at LAA for a BYOB lunch at a date and time to be announced. After chatting about the year and making plans for next year, you can have one of your plein air works hanging in the gallery be critiqued. A great way to end the season.

To enroll on the Master Plein Air list, please email Maura Cochran at maura.cochran@icloud.com.

Picture Gallery from our 2024 plein air paintout sessions.



Workshops to Inspire You!

The Beauty of Birds
Drawing & Painting
Workshop with
Michael DiGiorgio

July 17 - 18
Lyme Art Association
Register today!
LymeArtAssociation.org/workshops/

LAA Members: \$300
Non-LAA Members: \$320

Old Lyme Plein Air
Painting Workshop with
Caleb Stone

August 2 - 4
Lyme Art Association
Register today!
LymeArtAssociation.org/workshops/

Option to take as a 2 or 3 day workshop
LAA Members: 2 day: \$400.00 / 3 days: \$550.00
Non-LAA Members: 2 days: \$425 / 3 days: \$575

Dynamic Still Life
Painting Workshop with
Mike Laiuppa

September 28 - 29
Lyme Art Association
Register today!
LymeArtAssociation.org/workshops/

LAA Members \$325
Non-LAA Members \$350

[More Information at www.LymeArtAssociation.org/Workshops](https://www.LymeArtAssociation.org/Workshops)



Thank you to our wonderful volunteers!

We want to give a big shout out to our wonderful community of volunteers who make our Association work. Just to name a few, this spring our reception helpers included Nina Ritson, Steve Mizerek, Debra Lee, Tom Lee, Henie Kurzman, Linda Boisvert DeStefanis, Earl Grenville Killeen, Liane Philpotts, Lynda Pyka, Diane Chandler, and Anne Haviland; pianists Hugh Hunsinger and Ryan Bittar; gallery helpers Sarah Stifler Lucas, Roger Clements, Donna Gilberto, and Sue DalPonte; and spring clean up volunteers Dawn Bisharat, Jennifer Holmes, Vivian Zoe, Ann Gagnon, Jessica Southwick, Charles Shaw, Catherine Puccio, Sue DalPonte, and Candice Wiegler-Spier.

We would also like to show a spotlight on Pete Lacey, one of our extraordinary volunteers! Pete originally volunteered for one of our spring clean up days, where he joined Paul Michael, Debbi Goodman (who keeps our entrance so beautiful), and other volunteers.

Pete noticed that the southern edge of the property, adjacent to Halls Road, was overgrown with weeds and offered to clean it up. Little did we know the energy and time that he was ready to commit to this project!

Over the next two months, Pete cleared the entire area of weeds, brought many truckloads of mulch, planted rhododendrons and native perennials, planted grass seed, and watered everything. We are deeply grateful to Pete for his initiative and all of his hard work. Pete also happens to be the husband of Henie Kurzman, one of our artists, who also volunteers for us at receptions!

We would be remiss not to thank the many volunteers on our board and committees whose time and commitment to LAA make this such a vibrant place and keep us moving forward. A special thanks to recent event chairs Sarah Stifler Lucas, MJ DeRisio, and David Zuckerbraun

If you enjoy the arts and meeting new people, please consider becoming a Lyme Art Association Volunteer. There are many ways that your talents and love of art can help support our many exhibition, gallery, education and special program activities.

Call Paul Michael about the volunteer opportunities available to you at (860) 434-7802 or paul@lymeartassociation.org. Just a few of the volunteer opportunities available include:

Receiving: Receive paintings for upcoming exhibitions.

Hospitality: Decorate, greet and play music at opening receptions.

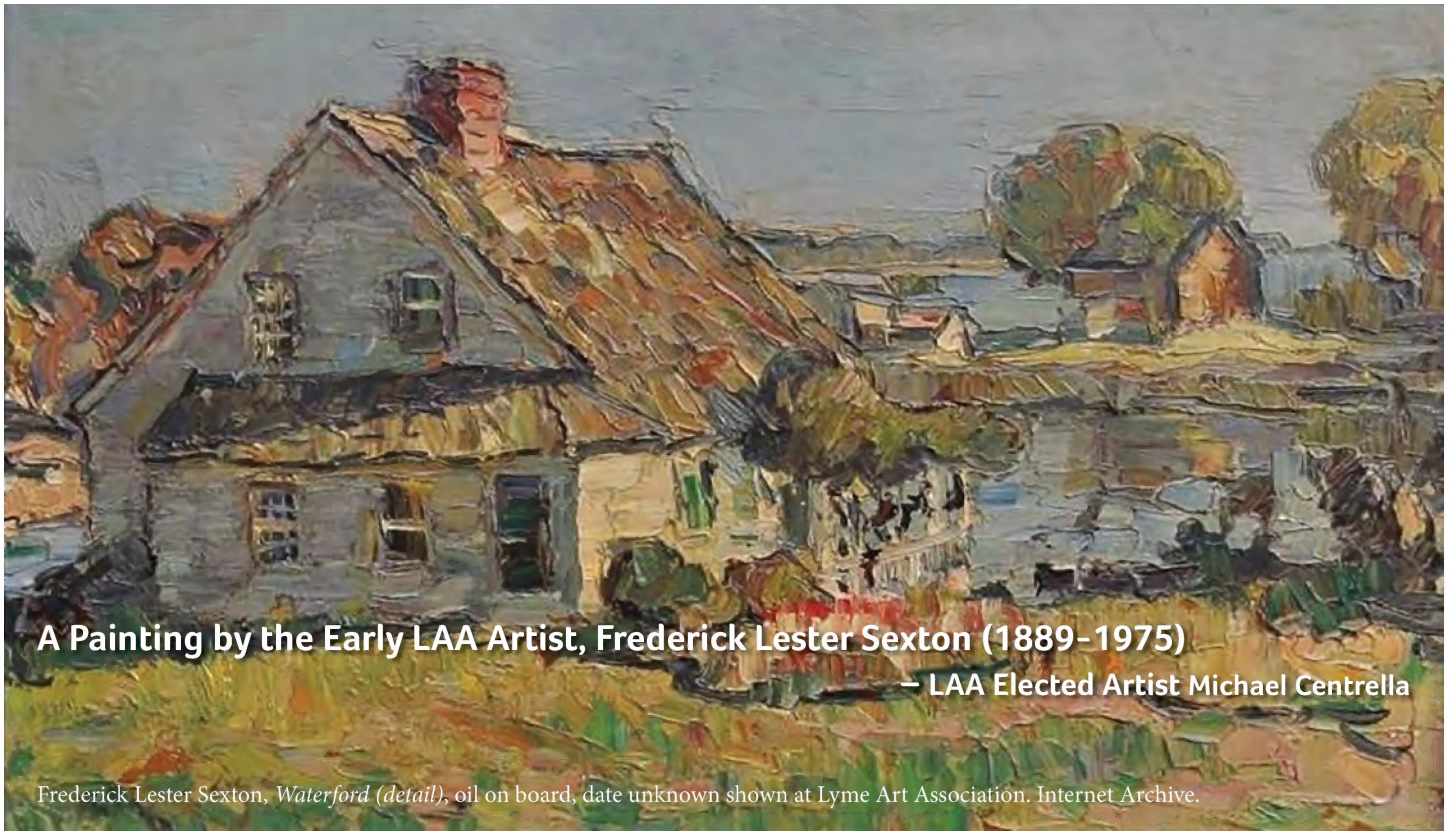
Refreshments: Arrange and manage opening receptions, coordinate food, donate food for events and openings and bartend.

Set-up & Clean-up: Set-up & clean-up of opening receptions and events.

Artful Gardeners: Beautify the LAA gardens and landscapes by participating in Spring & Fall clean-ups as well as year-round gardening and flower arranging for opening receptions.

Interns: The Lyme Art Association offers internship opportunities and valuable experience for high school and college students interested in art, museum and gallery management, non-profit membership organizations, and docent support.





A Painting by the Early LAA Artist, Frederick Lester Sexton (1889-1975)

– LAA Elected Artist Michael Centrella

Frederick Lester Sexton, *Waterford (detail)*, oil on board, date unknown shown at Lyme Art Association. Internet Archive.

Many artists won't display much (or any) of their own work at home. But we do hang art! The pieces we collect often differ significantly from our own efforts, or represent methods or styles we strive to master. Still, others speak to us for more personal reasons. A landscape in our personal collection, by Frederick Lester Sexton, checks all the boxes. Like this collector, Sexton had strong ties to several Connecticut locations, institutions, and long-standing art associations.

Sexton was born in Cheshire in 1889, to a local minister and his amateur artist wife. Young Frederick suffered serious burns to his right hand, forcing it closed for the rest of his life. However, this didn't prevent him from studying or practicing art, first at home, and then at Yale where he received a BFA and self-study and travel awards. During tours and military service in Europe in WWI, Sexton was greatly influenced by the impressionist and so-called modernist artists of the time. After his return, he settled in New Haven and taught art at local and regional schools, and privately at home.

One of Sexton's first public showings was in a 1913 exhibition by the New Haven Paint & Clay Club, Connecticut's oldest continuously active art society, who offered him membership in 1921. He won a New Haven Paint & Clay Club named award in 1928, a purchase prize in 1939, contributed consistently to its shows, and was Club president in 1943-1945 and 1962-1963.

Perhaps based on his characteristic style and the preponderance of like-minded artists in Old Lyme, Sexton was strongly drawn there in the late 1920s. He developed numerous artist friendships in the area and, beginning in 1933, regularly showed at the Lyme Art Association. He built a second home on property obtained from Guy Wiggins, and, in 1936, gained LAA membership, which then required local residency. Sexton continued painting in southeastern Connecticut, often with neighboring artist friends, until his passing in 1975.

Sexton was also a member of the Connecticut Academy of Fine Arts, and helped it forge bonds among art associations throughout the state. In an uncharacteristic venture further from home, he was elected yet again to the well-known Salmagundi Club of New York. His ties to these important early art groups were solid and significant to him as an artist and leader in his field. His works are held in many public and private collections.



Frederick Lester Sexton, *Self-Portrait*, oil on canvas, 1940. Lyme Art Association - Internet Archive. Currently owned by the artist's heirs.

The landscape by Sexton in our collection (shown right) is indicative of the post-impressionistic, regionalist style often found in his plein air work. It depicts small structures engulfed by large trees, with running water in the foreground, all covered or bordered by snow. The brushwork, quite typical of his early style, is strong and almost frenzied, as if the snow is still falling. The palette echoes other snow-loving artists in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, upstate New York, and Vermont at the time, with the overall impression being appropriately chilly.

The painting in our collection portends Sexton's 1962 painting "Old Home, Wallingford" (shown below), offered for \$50 back then (about \$500 today), and shown in his memorial exhibition at LAA in 1976. Both paintings are oil on hardboard, analogous in size, palette, and signature, and clearly of the same outlook and hand.

Works by Frederick Lester Sexton continue to surface at auction or private sales, and usually gain or well exceed prices of similar sized paintings by today's LAA artists. Notably, they remain strong images that recall a significant era in LAA's history. And for this collector, they assemble more than a few elements that make producing, collecting, and living with art essential to the good life.

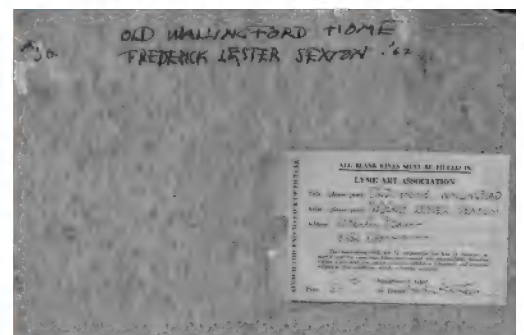
*The author is grateful for conversations with artist and historian Jack Montmeat and Sexton's grandson, Professor John Christie and his brothers; for biographical information by Helen Fusscas (*The Connecticut Gallery*, 1987) and Dorothy Gall (*The New Haven Paint & Clay Club's 100th Anniversary Exhibition catalog*, 2000); for Ira Hillyer's recollections of Sexton on AskART.com (2005); for archived material on Eldreds.com (2016); and for recent public sales records on findartinfo.com.*



Frederick Lester Sexton, *A Home in the Woods, Winter*, oil on board, date unknown. The author's collection.



Frederick Lester Sexton, *Old Home, Wallingford*, oil on board, 1962. Lyme Art Association - Internet Archive. Current location unknown.



Above: The label on the reverse of *Old Home, Wallingford*, courtesy of Robert C. Eldred Co., Inc., East Dennis MA.

From the Archives: E. Gregory Smith – LAA Elected Artist Katherine Simmons

In addition to being a wonderful artist, Edward Gregory Smith demonstrated outstanding devotion to Lyme Art Association, serving as the President of Lyme Art Association for 24 years, 1934–1958. Later, he managed the Association's Gallery and enjoyed local fame for his newspaper articles about the activities of the Association.

Born Edward Gregory Smith (1880-1961), Smith was known as E. Gregory Smith, referring to himself as Gregory Smith although he signed some paintings with his full name. He moved to Old Lyme from his hometown of Grand Rapids, Michigan, in 1910, at the encouragement of his friend Will Howe Foote. Smith had studied for a couple of years at the Chicago Art Institute and was eager to meet the many well-known artists staying in Old Lyme.

Gregory Smith admired the artists associated with the colony, particularly Childe Hassam and Willard Metcalf. He respected Metcalf's ability to record the essence of the New England countryside - from panoramic views to intimate woodland scenes. Metcalf's interest in painting both moonlight scenes and winter landscapes influenced Smith to make these his specialty.

When Smith and his wife Annie first came to Old Lyme, they rented the Brick Store, a local landmark that was near the present site of the Lyme Art Association. They frequently had meals at Miss Florence Griswold's house and Gregory Smith sometimes boarded there with other colony members for several months at a time when Mrs. Smith took the children to Florida. Admired for his sharp wit, Smith often joined in on the antics and practical jokes the artists played on one another.

In 1916 the Smiths built a house and studio on Sill Lane in Old Lyme, where they lived for the rest of their lives. Tragically, a fire in 1925 destroyed the studio and most of the work the artist had accumulated to that time.



Lyme Art Association Gallery, 1948, seated left to right: Roger Wilson Dennis (1902-1996), William Chadwick (1879-1962), Thomas Willoughby Nason (1885-1971), Edward Gregory Smith (1880-1961), Northam Robinson Gould (1893-1963), Will Howe Foote (1874-1963), W. Langdon Kihn (1898-1957), Frederick Lester Sexton (1889-1975).

He was elected as an artist member of the Association, exhibiting in the LAA Gallery from 1911 to his death in 1961. He was awarded several of the most prestigious exhibition prizes of the Lyme Art Association, including the W. S. Eaton Purchase Prize in 1922, the Woodhull Adams Memorial Prize in 1927, and the Goodman Prize in 1931 and 1936.

In 1962, the Association presented a Memorial Exhibition of the works of Ivan Olinsky, Guy Wiggins, and Gregory Smith. In 1977 a small retrospective of Smith's work was shown at the Lyme Historical Society.

Smith was born on May 2, 1880, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, son of Walter Smith, store clerk and Civil War veteran, and his wife Ruth (Gregory) Smith. Gregory Smith married Annie D. Graves, daughter of Dr. Schuyler Colefax Graves and his wife Annie M. Dryden, on 16 April 1906 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Gregory Smith died on November 7, 1961, in Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania at the home of his daughter Mary. He was survived by his wife and three children, Schuyler Smith, Edward Gregory Smith Jr. and Mary (Smith) Symonds. Gregory's wife Annie died in Old Lyme on 13 February 1968. Gregory Smith and his wife are buried in Duck River Cemetery, Old Lyme CT.



E. Gregory Smith, *Old Fashioned Winter*, oil.



The **Brick Store** stood on the corner of Halls Road and Lyme Street. By 1900, the building was remodeled into a two-family residence where Lyme Art Colony members lodged near Florence Griswold's boardinghouse. The building fell victim to the construction of the Blue Star Highway, the four-lane precursor to Interstate 95 that carved a path through Old Lyme in the late 1940s.

This photo shows the remodeled Brick Store before the highway construction with Lyme Art Association in the background.

Sources: Ancestry.com. AskArt.com. InternetArchive.net. Photography: Peter A. Juley & Son Collection, Photograph Archives, Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Art you interested in becoming an Elected Artist Member of Lyme Art Association? Artists must submit their Elected Artist Application (in person or via email) by Sunday August 11, 2024. Artwork must be physically dropped off between Wednesday August 21 through Saturday August 24, 2024.

To be considered for election as an Elected Artist Member by the Lyme Art Association, a person must be: an Associate Artist Member in good standing for a minimum of two years; a painter, draftsman, printmaker or sculptor who has exhibited a minimum of 3 paintings, drawings, prints or sculpture as an Associate Artist Member at the Association; and committed to working actively at the Association, by serving as a Director, Officer, or committee member, and helping to arrange and present the Association's exhibitions and programs. If you have any questions, contact paul@lymeartassociation.org.

In Memoriam: Elected Artist Mike Eagle - LAA Elected Artist Sara Drought Nebel

Mike Eagle arrived at LAA a few years ago to give his lecture about illustration. I had known him for many years at LAA, and we always talked for a while when he came in. But I had no idea of how prolific his career was!

When Mike was a child, he knew he wanted to be an artist. He then wrote a letter to Disney to ask how he could become an animator there. They wrote back! Mike was advised to go to art school and study so that is what he did. He graduated from Middletown High School. On the advice of his high school art teacher, he attended Hartford Art School at the University of Hartford and studied with Henrik Mayer, Alan Tomkins, Rudolph Zallinger, Ted Biel, Paul Zimmerman and others.

In 1963 he won his first award and medal from the Society of Illustrators National Collegiate Competition. Mike based his thesis portfolio work on a series of drawings inspired by the book *Moby Dick*. He diligently researched his material at Mystic Seaport studying the whaling ship *Charles W. Morgan* and one of these paintings was purchased by Hartford Art School and donated to The Collection at Mystic Seaport. In 1965 Mike graduated cum laude from Hartford Art School with a BFA in Fine Arts and married his high school sweetheart, Mary Grace, August 21, 1965.

He then went to work for the Aetna Life and Casualty Company as a very busy and successful staff illustrator. At this time the U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia was increasing and Mike enlisted in the U.S. Army. As a Lieutenant in the US Army Corps of Engineers in 1966, he saw action and was awarded The Bronze Star for Meritorious Service Against Hostile Ground Forces.

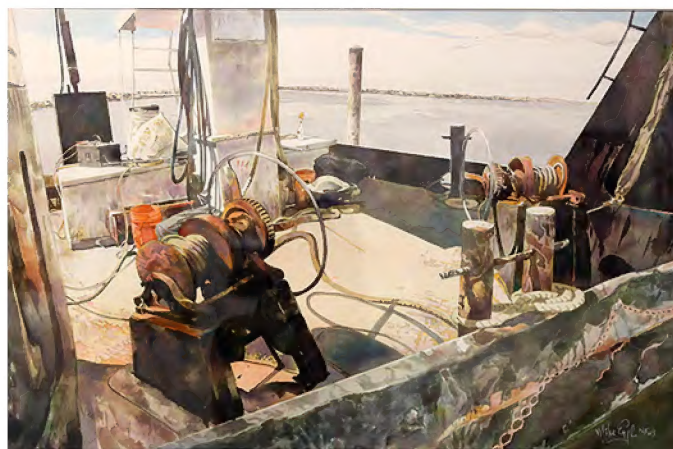
After his release from active duty, while Mary Grace was teaching Elementary School in Middletown, Mike was able, with her blessing, to go to work full time as a freelance illustrator. As usual, Mike went to search for creative work with determination and worked for many major publishing houses. His wife and children have always been his inspiration.

Mike was a freelance illustrator, an artist, author, and an adjunct college professor at Paier College of Art, University of Connecticut, and Quinnipiac University. Mike was a lifelong member of the prestigious Society of Illustrators in New York City. Mike worked as a freelance illustrator for many well known publishing houses, magazines, and advertising agencies including Addison-Wesley, Ginn, Houghton Mifflin, Xerox, Sports Illustrated, Readers Digest, Random House, and Henry Holt. As an author, Mike wrote and illustrated books such as *The Marathon Rabbit* and *The Wolf From The Sea*.

Mike has been an award winning artist in national exhibitions and publications and active in many CT Shoreline art groups with his fine art. He has exhibited in juried shows with the Madison Art Society, Guilford Art League, Clinton Art Society and he has been a long time Elected Artist at Lyme Art Association.

We recently sold 2 of Mike's paintings from the Elected Artist Gallery at LAA. His beautiful line and brushwork live on and continue to be collected by our visitors.

The last thing Michael said at his father's funeral was, "Dad, you better keep your arm in shape because when I get up there, we're gonna have a catch." I will miss my friend Mike. Please read his obituary in the Hartford Courant.



Mike Eagle, *Deck of the Twistah*, Watercolor

Elected Artist Kent Winchell - LAA Elected Artist Sara Drought Nebel

Lifelong generational Old Lyme resident, Kent Winchell was born January 26, 1946 and began his art career with classes at Lyme Art Association when he was about 12 years old. He is still married to his high school sweetheart, Kathy, and they live in Old Lyme.

After graduating from high school, Kent went to New York to study art, at Mitchell College and The Pratt Institute. These foundational studies would stay with him. He spent 4 years in the Navy and worked at Electric Boat for 40 years while he and Kathy raised their family. Art took a back seat during these decades, though Kathy always encouraged him to get back to it.

He was 50 years old when a chance encounter with Lou Bonamarte brought Kent back to art. He began taking classes with Lou and was a sponge, learning from this Lyme Art Association master and enduring his sometimes volatile temperament. He met Barrant Nelson at this time and he and Barry became good friends and painting partners. (Kent wrote a touching memorial tribute to Barrant Nelson in our [December 2021 Newsletter](#)). He and Lou remained close too, throughout the years, and Kent painted with many of our past and present accomplished painters.

While studying with Bonamarte, Kent was working in watercolor, but the medium never really suited him. When he switched to oils, he found his true expression. He painted continuously in his 50s and became an Elected Artist at LAA when he was 57 or 58.

Since then, he has won numerous awards and had collectors purchase his work at LAA and other shows and solo exhibitions. Kent is a studio painter and said he will sketch out a painting, wipe it out, rework the composition, leave it and come back to it many times before he is satisfied with it enough to complete it. He is a meticulous and self-critical painter. For this reason, there are not many his works out there. They sell quickly. His painting, *After The Storm* (shown upper right) was featured on our postcard for 2022 Deck The Walls Holiday Exhibition, and the painting sold immediately to a wise collector.

He studies the masters, and loves to look at, and talk about art. He is continually learning and honing his practice. Recently he has had some major health challenges, and his art was put aside again, but with his toughness and determination and Kathy's support and encouragement he is back to painting!

I always look forward to seeing Kent's work on our walls. His work echoes our gallery's ancestors - the early colony of painters. Irvine and Metcalf come to mind.

Kent Winchell is a Lyme Art Association treasure. I am proud to call him my friend.



Kent Winchell, *After The Storm*, oil



Kent Winchell, *Spring, Hamburg Cove*, oil



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